Amendment of FERA

215. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government purpose to amend FERA in order to remove certain ambiguities in some of the provisions of the Act; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) The Government of India has appointed a working Group under the Chairmanship of Deputy Governor Reserve Bank of India to review the exchange control regulations. If any amendment in FERA is suggested by the Group, it would be considered by the Government at the appropriate time.

Sick textile mills

216. SHRI SYED RAHMAT ALI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the sick textile mills whose managements have been taken over by Government during the last three years; and

(b) what steps Government have taken to revive them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) During the year 1983, the management of 13 textile undertakings of Bombay was taken over by the Central Government pending nationalisation. The names of these 13 Textile mills are as under:—

(1) Elphingstone Spg. & Wvg. Mills, Bombay.

(2) New City of Bombay Mills, Bombay.

(3) Jam Manufacturing Mills, Bombay.

(4) Podar Mills, Bombay.

(5) Tata Mills, Bombay.

(6) Finlay Mills, Bombay.

(7) Podar Processors, Bombay.

(8) Shree Sitaram Mills, Bombay.

(9) Kohinoor Mills, No. 1, Bombay.

(10) Kohinoor Mills, No. 2, Bombay.

(11) Kohinoor Mills, No. 3, Bombay.

(12) Shree Madhusudan Mills, Bombay.

(13) Gold Mohur Mills, Bombay.

(b) At present all the 13 mills in Bombay are in production. Efforts are being made to achieve optimum capacity utilisation, in commensurate with the condition of the machinery. However, to reactivate the full installed capacity, modernisation of mills will be necessary.

Production of tobacco in Andhra Pradesh

217. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the per acre production of tobacco in Andhra Pradesh at present; and

(b) what special efforts the Central Government propose to take to increase the production of tobacco in that State?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) The present average yield of Tobacco in Andhra Pradesh is estimated at 348 Kgs. per acre.

(b) The Tobacco Board is implementing various technical progarmmes like Varietal Trials, Integrated Best Management, Topping and Desuckering, and is taking other steps like supply of various inputs etc. in collaboration with State Government and other agencies like the Directorate of Tabacco Development and Central Tobacco Research Institute.